

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A machine for grouping products lying on the ground, comprising:

a main frame carrying a first gathering device including a first pick-up and at least a second gathering device including a second pick-up, the first and second pick-ups configured to move products lying on the ground directly from the ground upward and onto first and second swathing devices, respectively, and having an inner end located toward a middle portion of the machine, the first and second pick-ups situated substantially one beside another with respect to a direction of travel of the machine traveled during grouping; and

a first swathing device and a second swathing device respectively associated with the first and second pick-ups and located behind the first and second pick-ups with respect to the direction of travel; ~~and~~

at least one rake configured to clear products lying on the ground from a strip of land between the first and second pick-ups with respect to the direction of travel, and

an outer rake situated in front of an outer end of each of the gathering devices.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 16, wherein the at least one rake is configured to rotate about an axis substantially horizontal and oblique relative to the direction of travel.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 17, comprising two raking disks placed so as to form a truncated V in which the truncated point is pointing in the direction of travel.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 18, wherein the two raking disks are offset one from the other in the direction of travel.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 17, wherein the at least one raking disk is connected to supports articulated on the main frame.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claims 17, wherein the at least one raking disk is driven in rotation by friction motion with the ground.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 16, wherein the at least one rake comprises at least one raking drum rotating about a substantially vertical axis.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 22, comprising at least two raking drums placed side by side.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 23, wherein the two raking drums are driven in rotation to turn away from one another at a front.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 24, wherein the two raking drums comprise on their lower part a flexible skirt to gather and move products.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 25, wherein the two raking drums comprise driving elements situated above the flexible skirts.

Claim 27 (Canceled).

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): A machine as claimed in claim ~~[[27]]~~ 16, wherein the outer rakes are disposed obliquely relative to the direction of travel and are configured to move products toward the first and second gathering devices.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 28, wherein the outer rakes are articulated on supports fixed to the first and second gathering devices.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 18, wherein each raking disk comprises a circular support fitted with teeth on its entire periphery.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): A machine for grouping products lying on the ground, comprising:

a main frame carrying a first gathering device including a first pick-up and at least a second gathering device including a second pick-up, the first and second pick-ups configured to move products lying on the ground directly from the ground upward and onto first and second swathing devices, respectively, and having an inner end located toward a middle portion of the machine, the first and second pick-ups situated substantially one beside another with respect to a direction of travel of the machine traveled during grouping; and

a first swathing device and a second swathing device respectively associated with the first and second pick-ups and located behind the first and second pick-ups with respect to the direction of travel; ~~and~~

a rotatable disk, fitted with teeth, configured to clear products lying on the ground from [[the]] a strip of land situated between the inner ends of the first and second pick-ups;
and

an outer rake situated in front of an outer end of each of the gathering devices.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 31, wherein the rotatable disk rotates about an axis oblique to an axis of rotation of the first pick-up.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 16, wherein the gathering devices do not include a cutting blade.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 16, further comprising first and second wheels supporting the first and second gathering devices, respectively, positioned at ends of the first and second gathering devices farthest from the inner ends.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 16, wherein the at least one rake is situated in front of the inner ends of the first and second pick-ups with respect to the direction of travel.

Claim 36 (Currently Amended): A machine as claimed in claim 34, further comprising third and fourth wheels supporting the first and second gathering devices,

respectively, the third wheel positioned at ~~[[an]]~~ the inner end of the first ~~gathering device~~
~~pick-up~~, and the fourth wheel positioned at ~~[[an]]~~ the inner end of the second ~~gathering~~
~~device~~ pick-up.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 16, wherein the first and second swathing devices are configured to reverse direction so as to move products toward the middle portion of the machine or in a direction away from the middle portion of the machine.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 31, wherein the first and second swathing devices are configured to reverse direction so as to move products toward the middle portion of the machine or in a direction away from the middle portion of the machine.

Claim 39 (Canceled).

Claim 40 (Currently Amended): A machine as claimed in claim ~~[[39]]~~ 31, wherein the outer rakes are disposed obliquely relative to the direction of travel and are configured to move products toward the first and second gathering devices.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): A machine as claimed in claim 40, wherein the outer rakes are articulated on supports fixed to the first and second gathering devices.

Claim 42 (Currently Amended): A machine as claimed in claim ~~[[27]]~~ 16, wherein the outer rakes are raking disks or raking drums.

Claim 43 (Currently Amended): A machine as claimed in claim [[39]] 31, wherein the outer rakes are raking disks or raking drums.

Claim 44 (New): A machine for grouping products lying on the ground, comprising:
a main frame carrying a first gathering device including a first pick-up and at least a second gathering device including a second pick-up, the first and second pick-ups configured to move products lying on the ground directly from the ground upward and onto first and second swathing devices, respectively, and having an inner end located toward a middle portion of the machine, the first and second pick-ups situated substantially one beside another with respect to a direction of travel of the machine traveled during grouping;

said first swathing device and said second swathing device being respectively located behind the first and second pick-ups with respect to the direction of travel and being adjacent and driven so that they move in the same direction and they deposit all the products in the form of a single lateral swath positioned beside the machine with respect to the direction of travel; and

at least one rake configured to clear products lying on the ground from a strip of land between the first and second pick-ups with respect to the direction of travel.

Claim 45 (New): A machine for grouping products lying on the ground, comprising:
a main frame carrying a first gathering device including a first pick-up and at least a second gathering device including a second pick-up, the first and second pick-ups configured to move products lying on the ground directly from the ground upward and onto first and second swathing devices, respectively, and having an inner end located toward a middle

portion of the machine, the first and second pick-ups situated substantially one beside another with respect to a direction of travel of the machine traveled during grouping;

said first swathing device and said second swathing device being respectively located behind the first and second pick-ups with respect to the direction of travel and being adjacent and driven so that they move in the same direction and they deposit all the products in the form of a single lateral swath positioned beside the machine with respect to the direction of travel; and

a rotatable disk, fitted with teeth, configured to clear products lying on the ground from a strip of land situated between the inner ends of the first and second pick-ups.